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Daily Mail: <http://www.charlestondaily.com/News/201402050278>

EPA officials have been in West Virginia almost since the day the spill was discovered, Garvin said, but have provided little information because the state is in charge. EPA Administrator Shawn Garvin and Bill Arguto, the EPA's chief of the region's "drinking water branch" spoke. While the EPA has commented in response to some media requests, he said it tries to let the state spearhead communications. "When we don't have the lead, we work with those on the ground who have the lead for the messaging," he said. As many others at the state and federal level continue to repeat, Garvin said smelly water doesn't necessarily mean unsafe water. Garvin said an EPA drinking water expert would remain here to work with state health officials. They'll also continue to help the state Department of Environmental Protection at the site of the spill and the other agencies involved in testing. Both Dr. Letitia Tierney, state health officer and commissioner of the Bureau for Public Health, and DEP Secretary Randy Huffman described it as a chance to put names to faces. "Nothing special happened today, other than (Garvin) personally showed up, that was the only thing that was different today," Huffman said.

Kew Ward focuses on "what we still don't know" with quotes from Dennis Matlock, Fran Burns and Bonnie Smith.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201402050057>

The state Department of Environmental Protection has not responded to requests for an interview or briefing to address those same issues. Burns said that EPA believes that cleanup crews -- from a contractor hired by Freedom Industries -- have taken adequate steps to avoid further pollution from the site reaching the Elk River. EPA officials made Burns available for an interview to answer Gazette questions about the extent of contamination at the site, what has been done to control any additional runoff, and long-term prospects for remediation of the tank farm. "As far as the extent of contamination of the spill, the work that has been going on at the site has contained anything that spilled," Burns said. "Since the initial response, the material has been collected that could move off the site," Burns said. "There are a series of things in place, there are sumps, there is an interceptor trench, pumping the water that they collect in the trench. There have been booms set up in the river so that any material that would escape from the trench or off site is collected by the booms." Burns said that some of the material from the Crude MCHM tank that leaked reached the river from surface runoff and some from underground leaching. "We suspect that some of both happened," Burns said. We don't know how much of it is subsurface. It could be a little. It could be a lot. There are things in place now to control anything that may be remaining on the site," Burns said. "It's very hard to say what may be left at this point." Dennis Matlock, EPA's on-scene coordinator at the Freedom Industries site, said he is "pretty confident" that the contamination has stopped. "The one thing out there that I think they're still working on is the groundwater issue," Matlock said. "A lot of groundwater is passing under the site, not that its taking any of the contamination with it, but it's just the geology or the makeup underneath the tanks, there's got to be a lot of runoff control." Matlock said that soon after the leak was discovered, Freedom began digging seven monitoring wells - four on the river edge and three above the tanks - to help them sample groundwater. The riverside wells are 20 feet deep, while the uphill wells are 40 feet. He said that they'd been dug for a while now, but they will have full access to the wells on Thursday and will be able to do more extensive testing and sampling. Those results are expected in about a week. Burns said that water and any contaminants that end up in the interceptor trench are being stored on site or transported to Freedom's Poca Blending facility in Nitro. During Tuesday's interview, Burns said he was not aware of any problems with the storage of those materials at the Poca Blending site. "I'd have to get back to you," Burns said. "I'm not sure of any of the details of the secondary containment at the Poca facility." After the Burns interview, EPA spokeswoman Bonnie Smith said in an e-mail that her agency "is aware of the enforcement actions DEP has taken at the Nitro site. EPA has visited the Poca facility to investigate staging operations of the MCHM-contaminated water."

WV Public Broadcasting distills the 5 the basic messages correctly. 1) why CDC cant say "safe"
2) no evidence there will be any long term effects 3) home testing (governor has decided to do)
4) EPA will look at piping issue 5) site is "stabilized"

<http://wvpublic.org/post/five-things-west-virginia-heard-wednesday-cdc-epa-gov-tomblin>

Two hours after the press conf ended, Gov Tomblin announced the state will pursue a home testing plan.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201402050031>